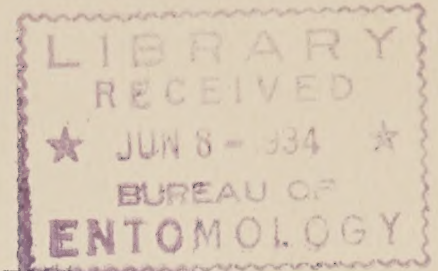


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
RESEARCH STATION
MOORESTOWN, N.J.

THE CONTROL OF JAPANESE AND ASIATIC BEETLE GRUBS IN LAWNS

The grubs of three imported beetles - the Japanese beetle (Popillia japonica Newman), the Asiatic beetle (Anomala orientalis Waterhouse), and the Oriental garden beetle (Aserica castanea Arrow) - cause considerable damage to lawns by feeding on the roots of grass.

When small, the grubs do not cause any noticeable injury to the grass, but after they have attained approximately one-half their growth the grubs feed heavily on the grass roots about one-half to three-quarters of an inch below the surface. Where there are not more than 100 grubs to the square yard, the grass will remain healthy if it is maintained in a moist condition. Where the infestation is greater than 100 grubs to the square yard, or where the ground can not be maintained in a moist condition, the feeding of the grubs will result in the destruction of the grass, unless precautionary measures are taken.

The most satisfactory method for protecting lawns from injury by these grubs consists in top dressing the grass with lead arsenate. The grubs when eating swallow sufficient quantities of the poisoned soil to kill them.

The lead arsenate is applied at the rate of 5 pounds to each 1,000 square feet of lawn. The treatment should be repeated at intervals of 6 to 12 months until three applications have been made. To facilitate the proper application of lead arsenate it is advised that the material be first thoroughly mixed with several times its bulk of fine sand, top soil, or a finely pulverized organic fertilizer. The mixture may be applied by means of a suitable machine or may be broadcast by hand.

The treatment should be applied only to the lawns. It is not advisable to treat flower and vegetable gardens, or the soil about ornamental shrubs.

The treatment may be applied to lawns at any time of the year when the ground is not frozen. The first treatment should be made when it is discovered that the lawn is being injured by the grubs.

The treated lawns may be mowed, watered, and fertilized as usual.

For further information address -

United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Entomology
Research Station
Moorestown, N.J.

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